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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I support Sonic.net wholeheartedly. They are a shining example of good business, and I prefer being a customer of theirs even while I can get much faster speeds from competition.

Business competition used to be a cornerstone of American society, and ever since we've set it aside in favor of corporatism, we have seen a decline in political culture and an increase in economic inequality. Please do not make the mistake of continuing to favor corporate gigantism with Federal policy. If you are truly worried about the masses of Americans in cities and in between who are experiencing a decline in quality of life, further enabling monopoly is not the answer. A simple examination of history can tell us this.

As it is right now, I live in a formerly industrial, depressed urban area. My city is experiencing gentrification, and with it has come additional tax dollars, but we simply do not live in a society where those tax dollars can translate to infrastructure support very easily. One reason is that it is very expensive, and we are still a poor city. Another is that we have embraced policy nationally that frowns upon the public sector getting their hands on telecommunications infrastructure. The result is not that AT&T is making investments in my area to improve service. Rather, they are investing in areas that already have decent service, because those gentrified areas promise to be more profitable. Comcast has faster speeds in my area, but their service is unfortunately unreliable.

These big companies can afford to ignore underdeveloped markets and find that it is a safer business practice for them to avoid infrastructure investment and instead focus on product development and marketing. I'm fortunate to live in an area that is home to several small, start-up Internet Service Providers. The value that they offer is incredible and far surpasses anything that AT&T offers! Unfortunately, they often can't afford to build new infrastructure in my area without first building a customer base through what we SHOULD consider healthy business competition. AT&T has a history of blocking these efforts. If AT&T doesn't want to do better business here, they should at least be prevented from blocking out their competition from doing so!

I used to live in a less isolated neighborhood, and Sonic's internet service has been the best I've ever seen. Their customer service was fantastic. I've never been happier. They are exactly the kind of

company that you should support and hold up as an object of pride and symbol of what it should mean to be a part of American society in the United States.

Armando Garcia